

REMARKS

Continued Examination has been requested in order to present new and different claims that respond to concerns expressed in the Board Decision.

The Board Decision discusses detailed distinctions that were argued in the Appeal Brief, but according to the Decision, were not presented in the Claims on appeal. The Board has correctly appreciated an important distinctive feature of the invention, and it is regretted that the distinctive feature was not included in the Claim on which the Decision was based.

We refer to Finding of Facts B. 3. of the Decision which observes: "The supplier is nowhere mentioned in Claim 2."

One sub-paragraph of new Claim 21 recites:

"the purchaser utilizes the interactive computer system to process inputs from those staffs and data from purchaser's data sources and to develop from those inputs and data, additional data that defines a design for the product, a process for manufacturing the product, shipment from the supplier to the purchaser's point-of-use, and a cost that the purchaser expects the supplier to have incurred in manufacturing the product and having the product delivered to the purchaser's point-of-use;" (underlining for emphasis).

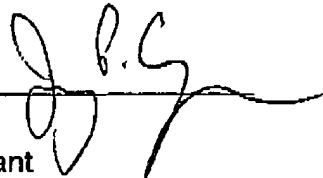
The "cost" mentioned in the last-underlined phrase, "a cost that the purchaser expects the supplier to have incurred in manufacturing the product and having the product delivered to the purchaser's point-of-use", is not the Buyer's, i.e. purchaser's, cost. The purchaser's cost will be the price that is mutually agreed on between the parties based on the data that the purchaser transmits to the supplier, and also, as recited in Claim 22, any counterproposal from the supplier to the purchaser.

It is believed that the new claims will enable the Examiner to act favorably on this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J.P. Calfa', written over a horizontal line.